

AMERICAN WATER'S EPA PARTNERSHIP



AMERICAN WATER

NATIONWIDE, USA

A Strong Partnership Addressing a Wide Variety of Environmental Issues

Whether supporting water quality, reducing energy intensity or promoting the wise use of water, American Water has been working collaboratively with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address a wide variety of environmental issues.

The water industry has always been a 'green' business and protecting water resources is essential to the service American Water provides. Water is a precious natural resource that is essential to life, and American Water strives to provide water and wastewater management services in a manner that prevents pollution, enhances the environment and promotes sustainability.

EPA Partnership Programs address a wide variety of environmental issues by working collaboratively with companies, organizations, communities, and individuals. American Water is one of 13,000 firms and other organizations participating in EPA Partnerships Programs. The programs in which American Water is involved have offered a wide variety of valuable services and resources to reduce the company's overall environmental impact.

AMERICAN WATER'S EPA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Partnership For Safe Water – Supporting Water Quality

As part of its ongoing commitment to support water quality, American Water joined the Partnership for Safe Water, a voluntary cooperative effort between the EPA, the American Water Works Association and other drinking water organizations, and more than 200 water utilities throughout the U.S.

Through the program, utilities implement additional prevention programs where legislation or regulation does not exist. These preventative measures are based around optimizing treatment plant performance and thus increasing protection against microbial contamination in America's drinking water supply.

The partnership has developed tools to facilitate improved performance, including the core of the program - a self-assessment procedure. This procedure

is based on a proven technique developed by EPA which results in the systematic analysis, identification and correction of factors which could limit the performance of the treatment system. The process requires that the utility honestly and openly examine its water treatment plant operation, including the physical plant and operations and administration practices, to identify areas of potential performance improvement.

The water system then establishes an action plan and begins to work on improvements identified by the self-assessment. The results of the self-assessment are reported to the Partnership and a team of utility peers evaluates the report to determine if the water plant is progressing toward treatment optimization sufficiently to warrant the awarding of the Director's Award.

Currently, 68 of American Water's 84 surface water treatment plants (over 81%) have received the Partnership's Phase III award, which was designed to assist in the optimization of treatment plant performance. Approximately one-third of the plants in the country to receive Phase III certification are American Water plants.

Climate Leaders – Reducing Energy Intensity

Climate change poses a potential threat to the efficient stewardship of water as an essential resource and American Water is committed to decreasing our greenhouse gas emissions intensity. In 2006, as part of its continued commitment to sustainable practices, American Water joined the EPA's Climate Leaders program, making the company the first water utility to join.

Launched in 2002, Climate Leaders is an industry-government partnership that works to develop long-term, comprehensive corporate climate change strategies. Participating companies commit to reduce their impact on

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the global environment by completing a corporate-wide inventory of their greenhouse gas emissions based on a quality management system, setting aggressive reduction goals, and annually reporting their progress to the EPA. Through program participation, companies create a credible record of their accomplishments and receive EPA recognition as corporate environmental leaders.

As part of its commitment to this partnership, American Water set a goal to lower its greenhouse gas emissions per volume of water produced by 16 percent by the year 2017. The company plans to achieve its goal through a combination of increased pump efficiencies, purchasing cleaner/greener energy, reducing its fleet, and increasing the use of onsite solar and other sources of green energy.

The company estimates about 90 percent of its greenhouse gas emissions are from the energy it uses to pump water. By replacing or refurbishing older large pumps, studies have shown pump efficiency can improve by as much as 20 percent. Planning and data gathering should be complete in 2010 and the company will begin to implement its plan to improve the efficiency of its pumps by 2011.

WaterSense – Promoting the Wise Use of Water

In 2008, American Water joined forces with the EPA's WaterSense program to use water resources more efficiently to preserve them for future generations and reduce water and wastewater infrastructure costs.

The EPA launched this program in 2006 to stimulate more efficient use of water in homes. This voluntary partnership promotes water efficiency and primes market demand for water-efficient products and services that reduce stress on water systems and the environment. WaterSense brings together local water utilities and governments, product manufacturers, retailers, consumers, and other stakeholders to:

- Decrease indoor and outdoor non-agricultural water use through the adoption of more efficient products and practices.
- Help consumers make water-efficient choices, including differentiating between products and services in the marketplace and adopting simple daily activities that reduce water use.
- Encourage innovation in manufacturing.
- Establish and standardize rigorous certification criteria that ensure product efficiency, performance, and quality.

As an official WaterSense promotional partner, American Water promotes the concept of water efficiency, water saving practices and WaterSense labeled products. The WaterSense label is easily identified on products and services that perform at least 20 percent more efficiently than their less efficient counterparts. The average household adopting water efficient products and practices can save about 14,000 gallons per year which is roughly equivalent to one backyard swimming pool. WaterSense labeled toilets, faucets, and faucet accessories helped consumers save more than 36 billion gallons of water and more than \$267 million in water and sewer bills in 2009.

Developing Federal Regulations at a National Level

By its very nature, American Water's research and environmental program is highly visible and provides an opportunity for thought leadership within the water industry. American Water's experience in the field of research and testing, commitment to creativity and innovation, coupled with its quality control and testing laboratory in Belleville, Ill., is why the EPA, which is one of the few U.S. bodies with environmental regulatory powers at the federal level, regularly taps into American Water's research team and nationally-recognized lab to help develop federal drinking water standards and regulations.

Several American Water staff members serve in leadership positions on more than a dozen water industry committees or work groups, and have provided consultation to the EPA. American Water researchers help set the research plans for all of the major water funding agencies, thereby influencing the future direction of the water, wastewater and reuse water industries for the benefit of customers and shareholders.



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